

November 14, 2023

Dear Committee Chair Peterson, Vice Chair Thomas, Ranking Member Humphrey, and Committee Members:

I live with my family in northeast Ohio. I am a gun-owner. I wish to express my opposition to H.B. 51.

The worst aspect of being a parent in the United States is wondering if my son will experience a mass shooting. The second-worst aspect is seeing our legislators consider bills like H.B. 51 that make this more likely to happen.

When we were attacked on Sept 11, we did not hide from the threat. We didn't say, "Oh gee! This problem is too hard to solve; let's just act like it doesn't exist." We didn't say, "There's no way to be 100% sure of preventing terrorist attacks, so let's not even try." Mass shootings and gun violence require thoughtful solutions. Some firearm regulations violate the Second Amendment, and some don't. Some regulations would reduce the likelihood of gun violence, and some wouldn't.

After those poor souls in Uvalde were murdered with a legal rifle, our urgent duty is to find policies that both work with the Constitution and prevent such horrors from happening.

H.B. 51 serves no public interest, but rather increases the likelihood of gun violence by preventing police from enforcing gun laws. Please, do not give up: oppose this bill, protect our children, and show the rest of the country that Ohio is a *responsible* gun-friendly state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Dylan Shearer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Charles Dylan Shearer